(c) There is no proposal at present to allot reservation quota at Bavla Station, due to meagre traffic offering.

[*English*]

Departure Time of Karnataka Express

2848. SHRI C. P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the departure time of Karnataka Express from New Delhi is most inconvenient to the passengers;

(b) whether the Government have received representations from the State and public in general for changing the departure time of this train; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). There have been some demands in the past for change in the departure timings of 2627/2628 Karnataka Express ex. New Delhi.

(c) Presently not feasible due to operational exigencies.

Conversion of Purulia Kotshila Line

2849. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that update survey has been completed for the conversion of Purulia-Kotshila narrow gauge line into broad gauge on the South-Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to take up the work during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

Charging of higher fare by Indian Airlines

2850. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines is a member of the International Air Transport Association;

(b) whether the passenger fare of the Indian Airlines is determined as per norms set out by the International Air Transport Association;

(c) whether the Indian Airlines is charging higher fare on domestic sectors; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Only international fares and fare levels are determined in International Air Transport Association forums. Domestic fares do not come within the purview of International Air Transport Association.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.